Cooling Effectiveness Measurements for Air Film Cooling of Thermal Barrier Coated Surfaces in a Burner Rig Environment Using Phosphor Thermometry

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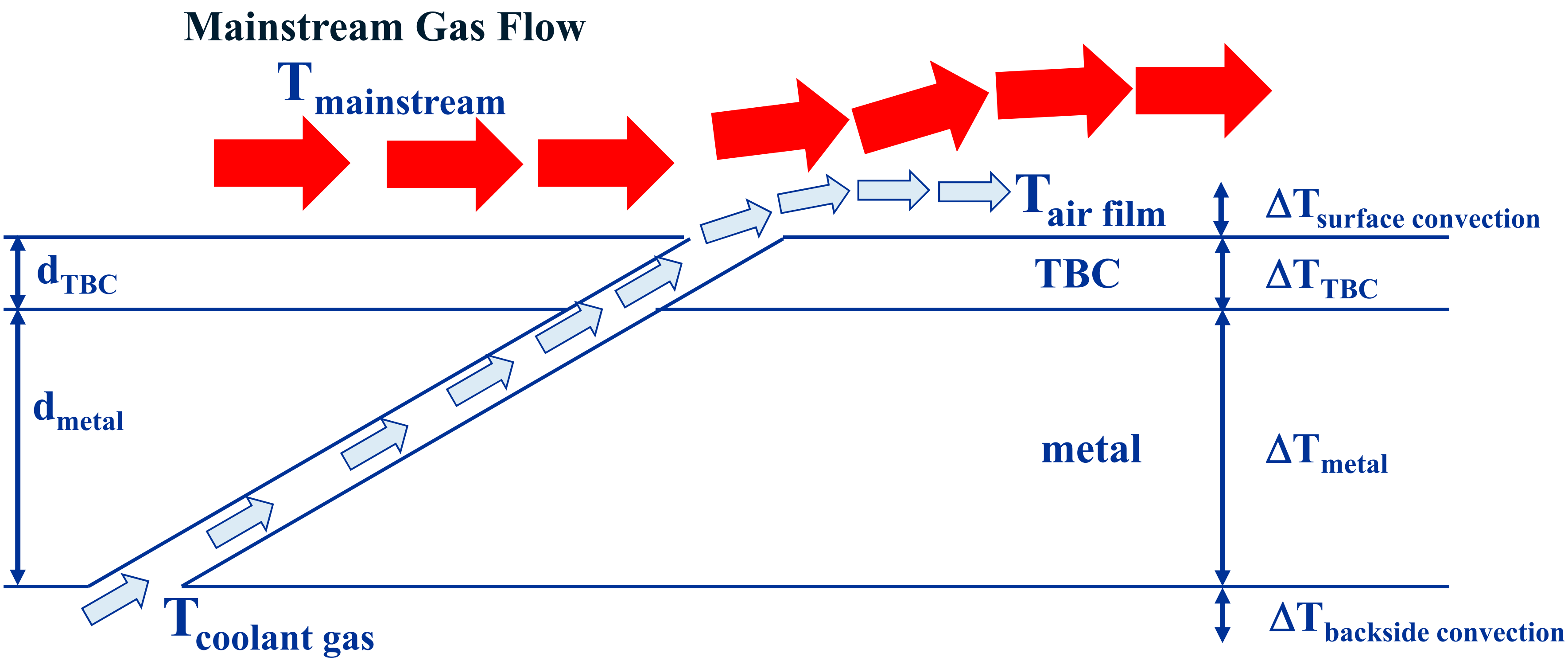
Aviation 2016
Washington, D.C.
June 13-17, 2016

Motivation for Evaluating Combined TBC + Air-Film Cooling

- TBC and air film cooling effectiveness usually studied separately.
- TBC and air film cooling contributions to cooling effectiveness are interdependent and are not simply additive.
- Combined cooling effectiveness must be measured to achieve optimum balance between TBC thermal protection and air film cooling.

Heat Transfer Through Turbine Blade/Vane



Cooling effectiveness:
(fraction of ΔT_{total} that occurs above metal surface)

$$\Phi = \frac{T_{mainstream} - T_{metal}}{\Delta T_{total}} = \frac{\dfrac{1}{h_{conv}} + \dfrac{d_{TBC}}{k_{TBC}}}{\dfrac{1}{h_{conv}} + \dfrac{d_{TBC}}{k_{TBC}} + \dfrac{d_{metal}}{k_{metal}} + \dfrac{1}{h_{backside}}}$$

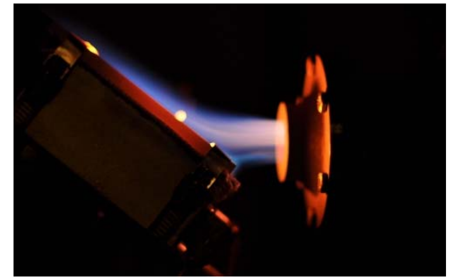
- Air film cooling greatly reduces effective h_{conv} and therefore greatly reduces Φ_{TBC}
- Air film cooling greatly reduces q and therefore ΔT_{TBC}

- Experimental measurements of combined TBC + air film cooling effectiveness are needed to evaluate TBC/air-film-cooling tradeoffs (Air film cooling carries significant penalty for engine efficiency).

Objectives

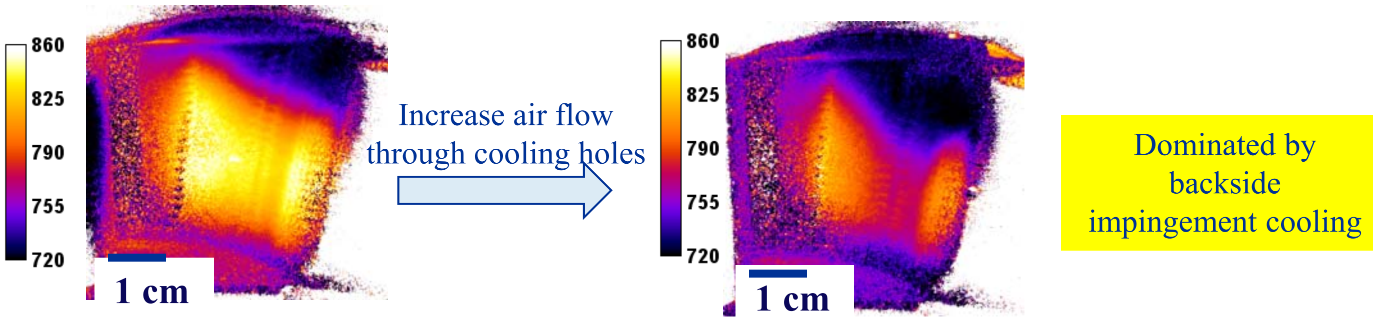
- Experimentally map effectiveness of air film cooling on TBC-coated surfaces.
- Examine changes in cooling effectiveness as a function of:
  - Mainstream hot gas temperature
  - Blowing ratio (cooling air flow)
- Examine interplay between air film cooling, backside impingement cooling, and through-hole convective cooling for TBC-coated substrate.

Approach



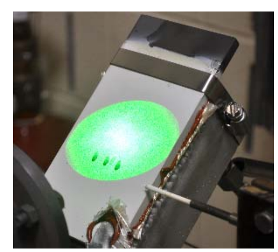
- Perform measurements in NASA GRC Mach 0.3 burner rig.
  - Vary flame temperature and blowing ratio.
- Perform measurements on TBC-coated superalloy plate with scaled up simple cooling hole geometry.
  - Initial testing of actual vane component did not produce effective air film cooling.

Cr:GAP coated vane with cooling air supply tubing

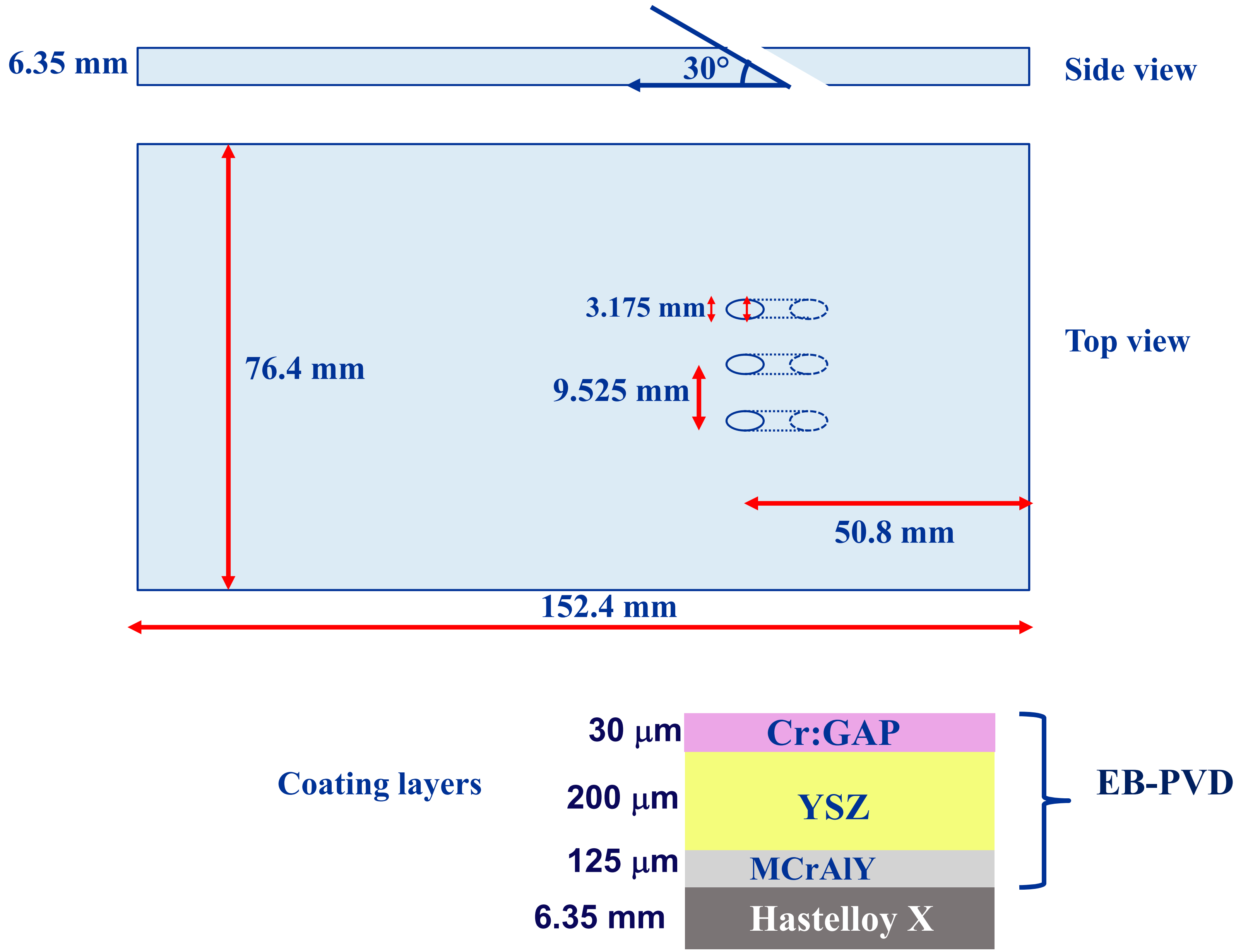


Surface temperature maps of stator vane doublet in Mach 0.3 burner rig

- Perform 2D temperature mapping using Cr-doped $GdAlO_3$ (Cr:GAP) phosphor thermometry.
  - $GdAlO_3$ exhibits orthorhombic perovskite crystal structure: gadolinium aluminum perovskite (GAP).
  - Ultrabright Cr:GAP luminescence emission enables surface temperature mapping using luminescence lifetime imaging by simply broadening the excitation laser beam to cover the region of interest.
  - Unbiased by emissivity changes and reflected radiation. ✓
  - Only applicable to steady state temperatures. ✘



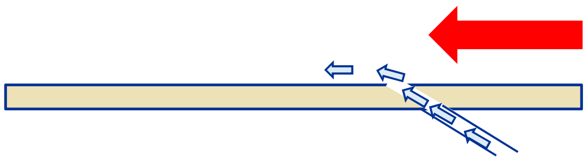
Cooling Hole Plate Geometry



Cooling Effectiveness Measurements

Conventional Air Film Cooling Effectiveness Test

Ducted uniform mainstream flow

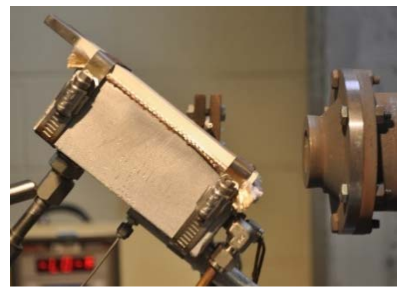


- Uniform mainstream flow (velocity & temperature)
- Typical surface temperatures: < 100°C
- Measure adiabatic air film cooling effectiveness, η

$$\eta = \frac{T_{mainstream} - T_{surface}^{adiabatic}}{T_{mainstream} - T_{coolant\ exit}}$$

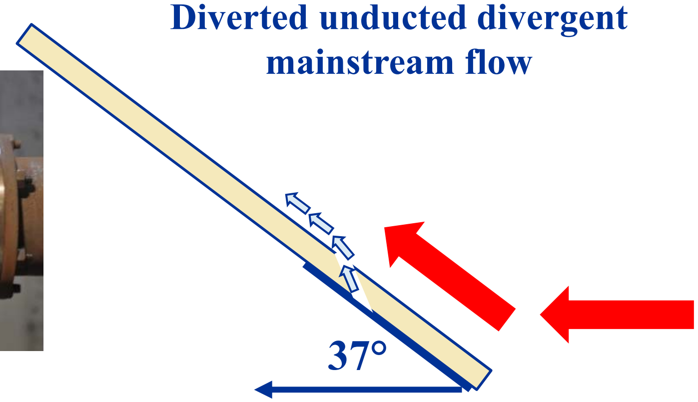
- η is a fundamental characterization of pure air film cooling effectiveness
- Measure η as a function of blowing ratio, M

$$M = \frac{\rho_{coolant} v_{coolant}}{\rho_{mainstream} v_{mainstream}}$$



Burner Rig Air Film Cooling Effectiveness Test

Diverted unducted divergent mainstream flow



- Divergent mainstream flow
- Typical temperatures: 600-1100°C
- Measure overall surface cooling effectiveness, η'

$$\eta' = \frac{T_{uncooled} - T_{cooled}}{T_{uncooled} - T_{coolant\ enter}}$$

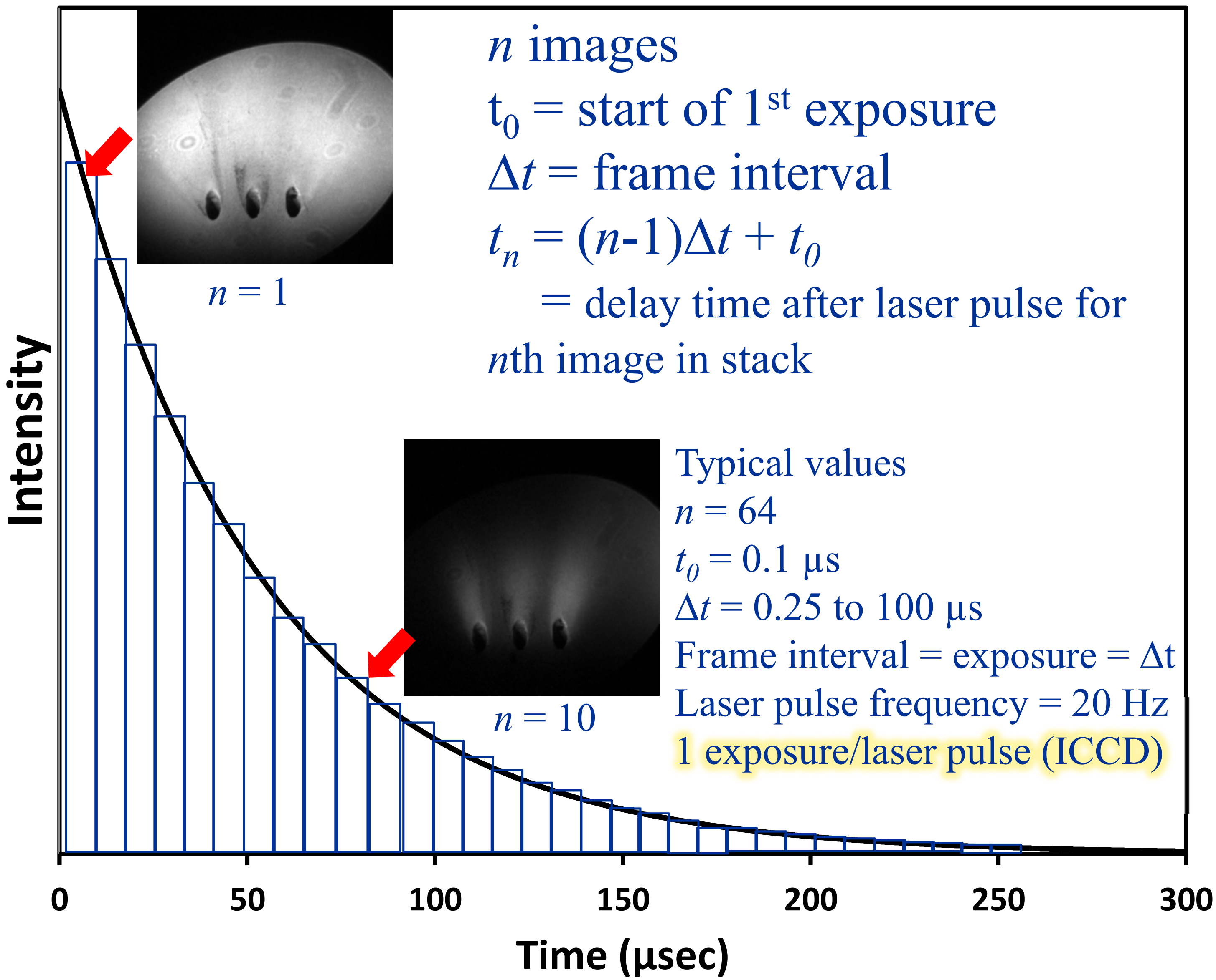
- η' is a nonfundamental but realistic characterization of combined surface cooling effects
- Measure η' as a function of M

$$M' = \frac{\rho_{coolant} v_{coolant}}{\rho_{mainstream} v_{mainstream}^{\max}}$$

2D Temperature Mapping by Luminescence Lifetime Imaging

- Image stack collection
- Background subtraction
- Data filtering
- Pixel by pixel lifetime analysis
- Produce temperature and cooling effectiveness maps from decay time maps

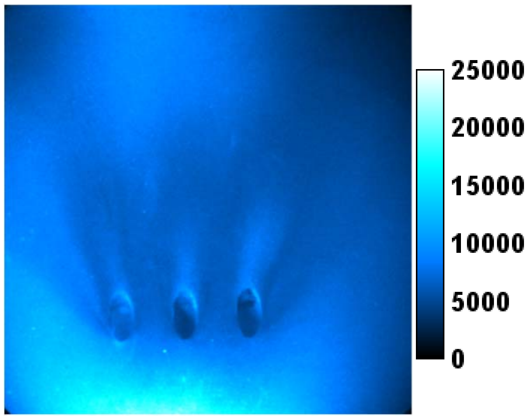
Luminescence Lifetime Image Stack



2D Temperature Maps from Luminescence Lifetime Imaging

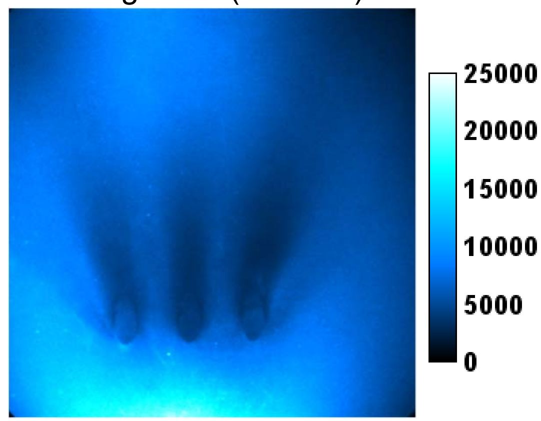
- Multi-step procedure:
  - Step 1: Remove radiation background from each frame collected.

Luminescence before background subtraction

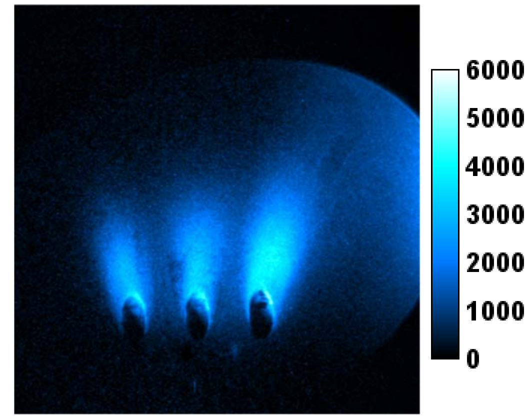


10 µs exposure 300 µs after laser pulse

Background (no laser)

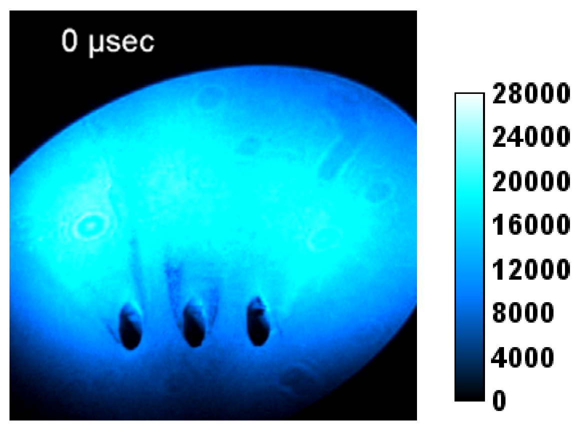


Luminescence after background subtraction



1 cm

  - Step 2: Assemble stack of background-corrected time-gated images over sequence of incremented delay times.

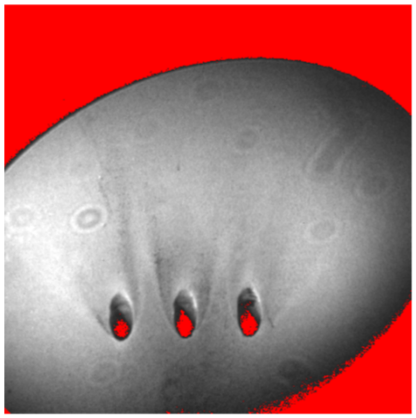


  - Step 3: Preform pre-fit filtering.

Pre-Fit Data Filtering

Criteria for removing pixels unsuitable for temperature determination

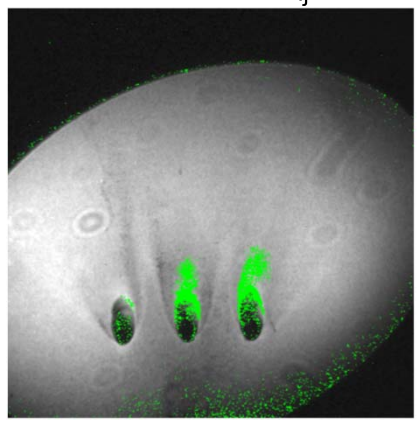
Minimum absolute threshold
I_{ij}(frame 1) < 2200



1 cm

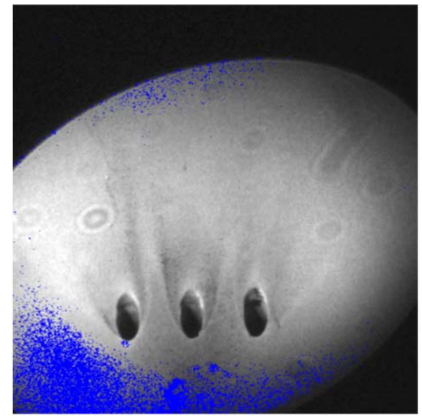
Insufficient signal

Maximum final frame relative threshold
I_{ij}(last frame) > 10%*I_{ij}(first frame)



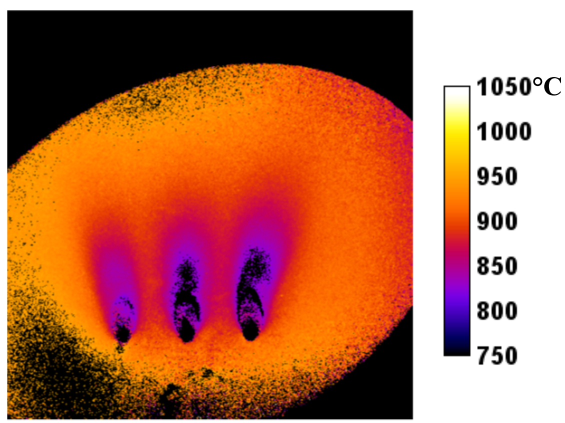
Too cold: need to extend to longer delay times after laser pulse

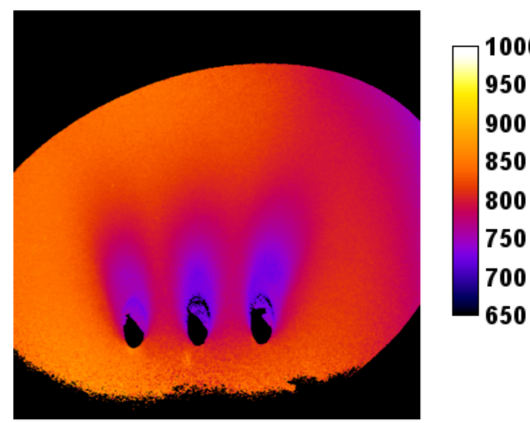
Minimum number of frames in fitting interval
10%*I_{ij}(first frame) < I_{ij}(frame n) < 90%*I_{ij}(first frame)
Number of frames < 6



Too hot: need smaller increments of delay time

Post-fit temperature map



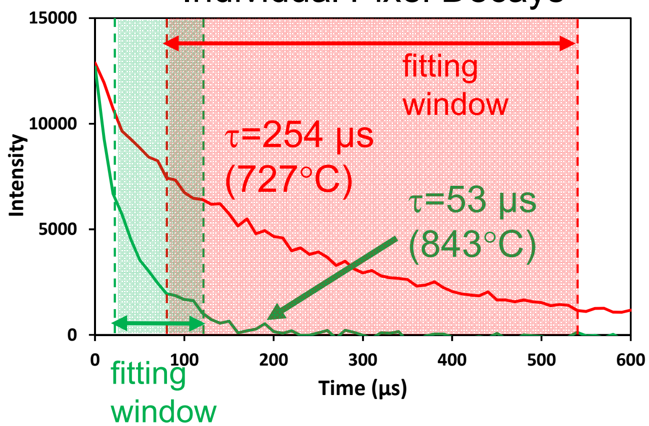


Example of better delay time range & increments

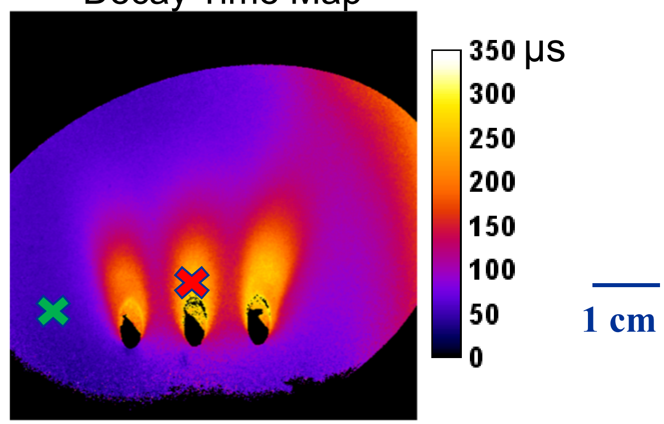
2D Temperature Maps from Luminescence Lifetime Imaging

– Step 4: Fit luminescence decay curve at each pixel to produce decay time map. Dyanamic fitting window spans region between 60% and 10% of initial intensity. (Matlab routine).

Individual Pixel Decays



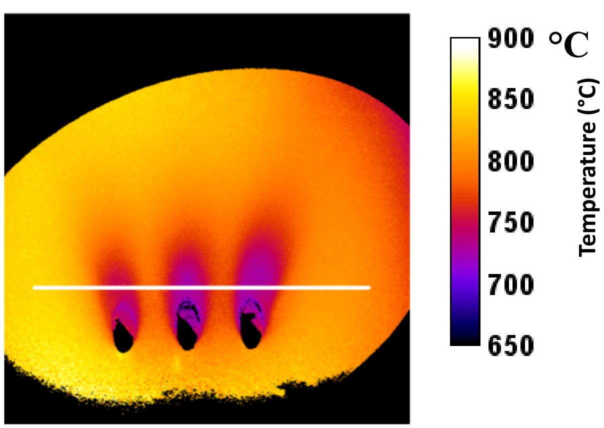
Decay Time Map



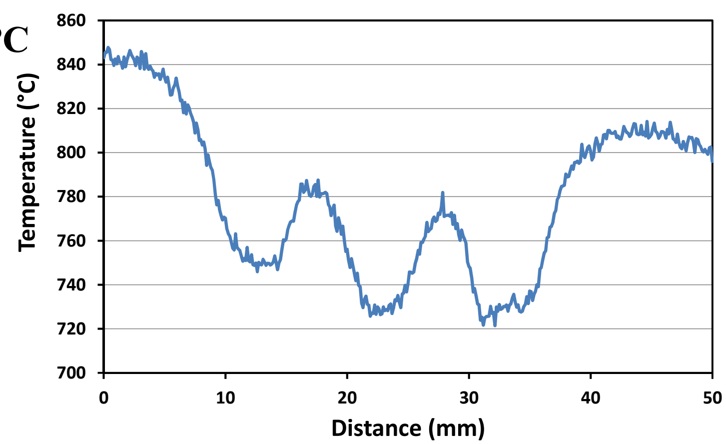
– Step 5: Use calibration data to convert decay time map to temperature map (Matlab routine).

$$\text{Find } T \text{ that gives know } \tau \text{ where } \tau = \tau_{2E}^{R} \frac{1+3e^{-\Delta E/kT}}{1+\alpha e^{-\Delta E/kT} + \beta e^{-(\Delta Eq+\Delta E)/kT}}$$

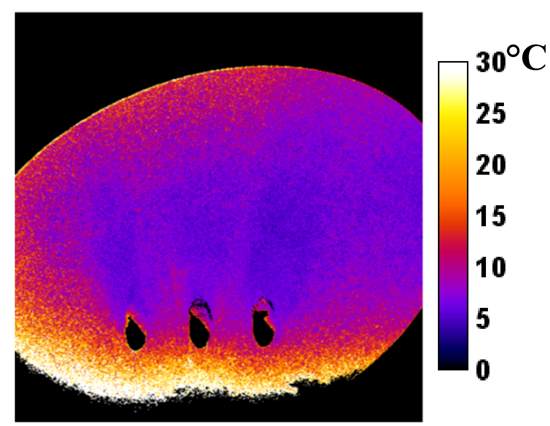
Temperature Map



Temperature Line Scan



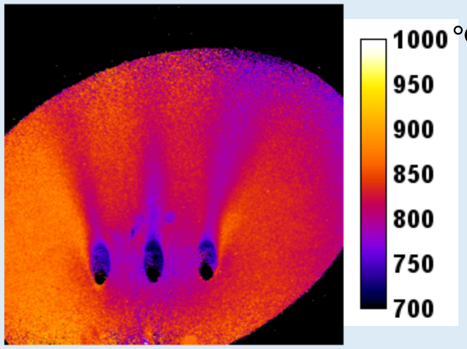
95% Confidence Interval



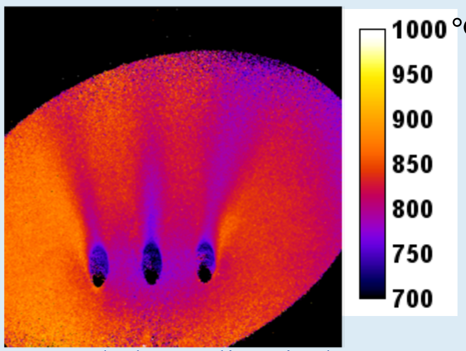
Effect of Luminous Flame Bursts

Decay time temperature maps

95% confidence interval

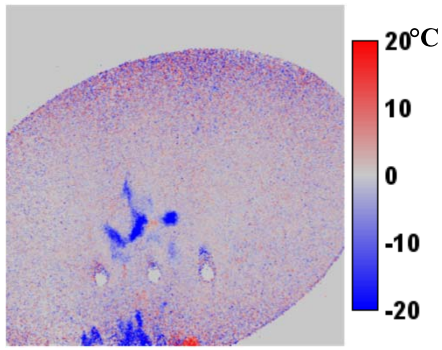


includes outlier pixels



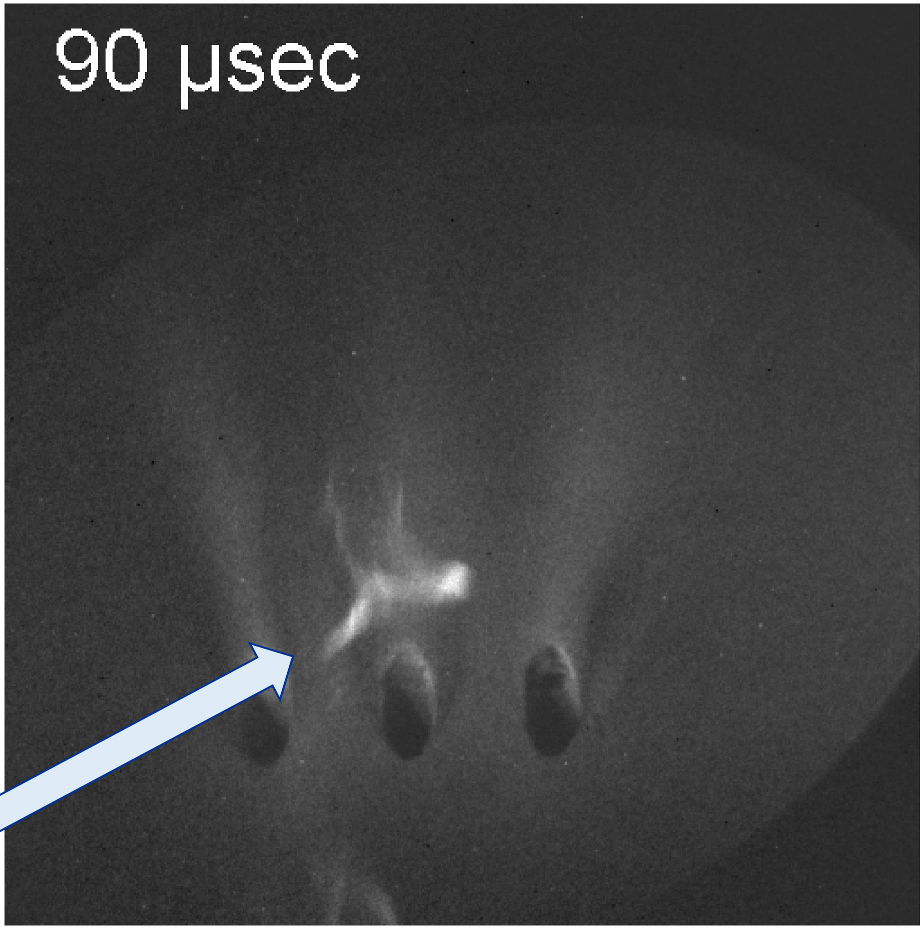
excludes outlier pixels

$T_{included}$ - $T_{excluded}$



Luminous flame streaks produce local temperature errors ~20°C too low.

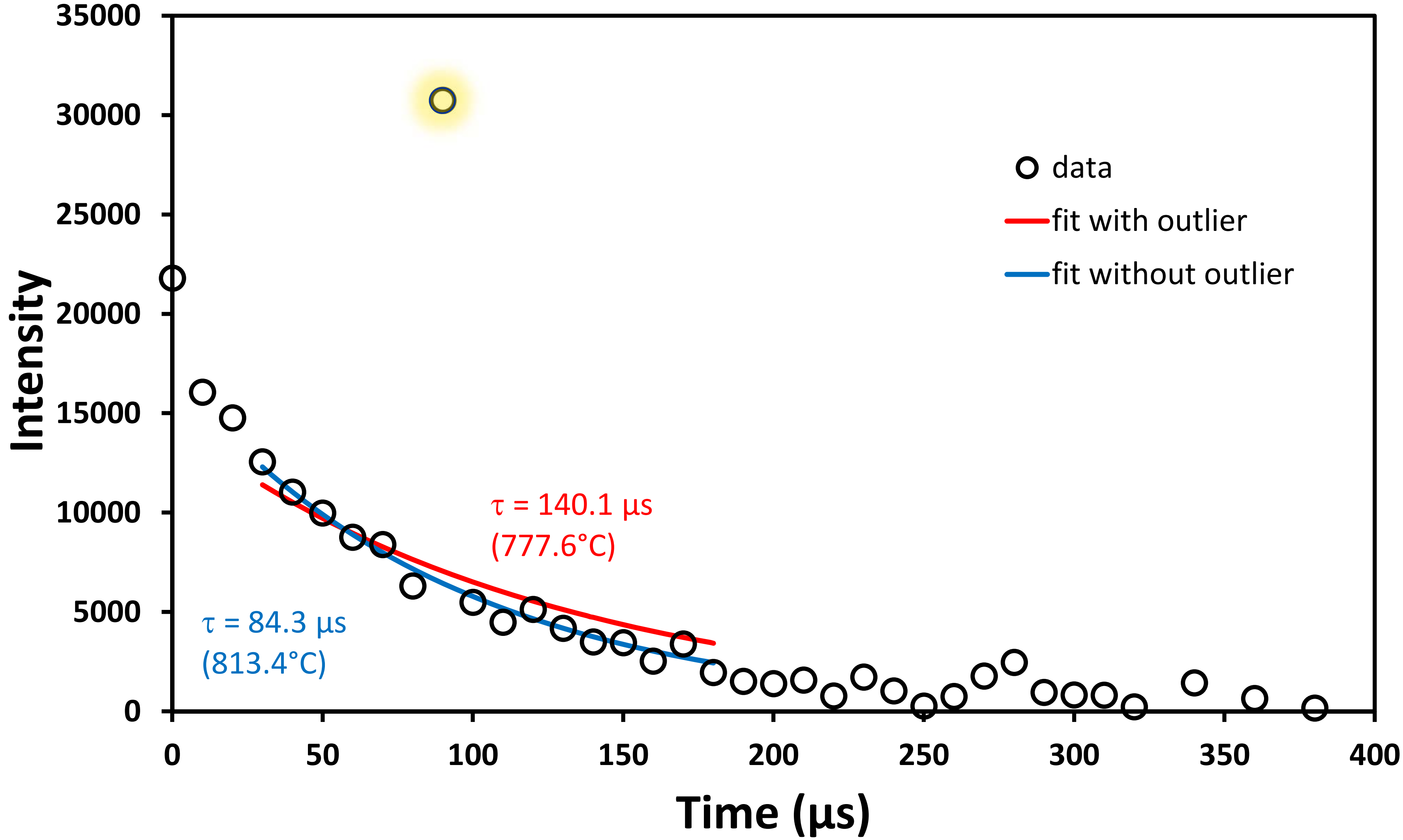
Tenth Image in Stack



Burning particle

Burning particles crossing field of view produce temperature map artifacts, can be mitigated by outlier removal.

Effect of Outlier Removal



$I_{ij}(t_n)$ is intensity of pixel ij in frame n of stack,

$t_n = n\Delta t + t_0$ where Δt is frame interval and t_0 is 1st frame time;

$I_{ij}(t_n)$ is an outlier *when* $\left|I_{ij}(t_n) - I_{ij}^{fit}(t_n)\right| > 1.5\sigma\left[I_{ij}(t_n) - I_{ij}^{fit}(t_n)\right]$

Air Film Cooling of TBC-Coated Surface Results

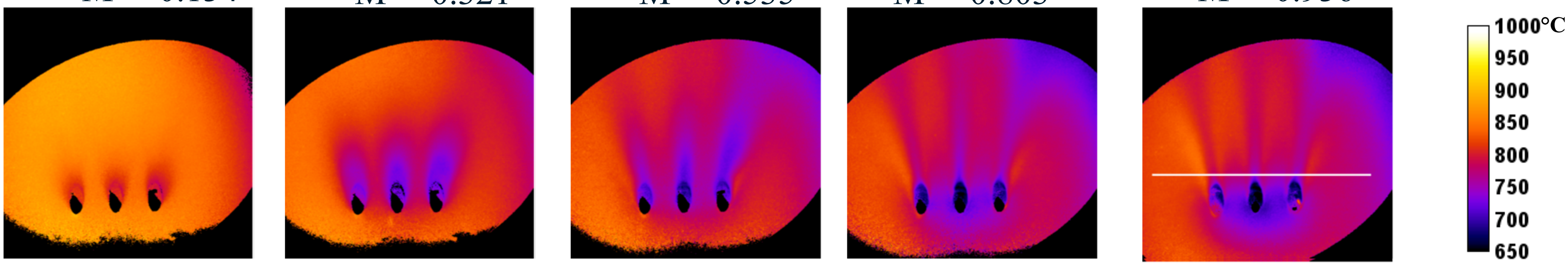
- Examine changes in cooling effectiveness as a function of:
  - Mainstream hot gas temperatures: 1390, 1604, and 1722°C
  - Blowing ratio: M' = 0 to 1.1

Burner Rig 2D Temperature Maps

$T_{mainstream} = 1390°C$

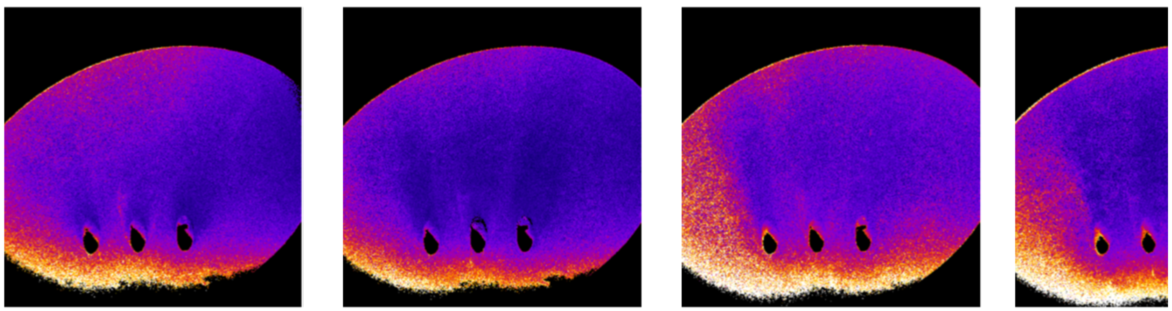
Decay time temperature maps

M' = 0.134 | M' = 0.321 | M' = 0.535 | M' = 0.803 | M' = 0.936

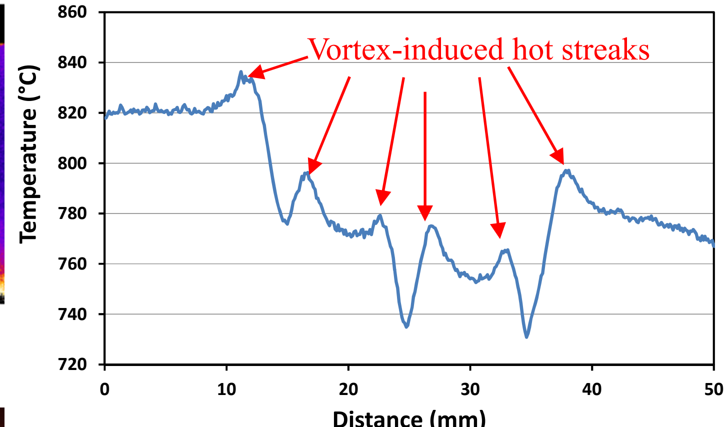


1 cm

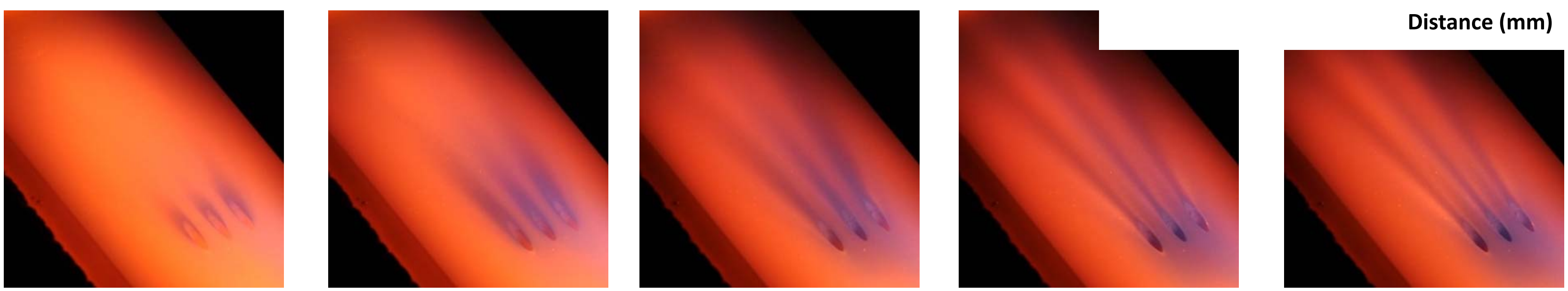
95% confidence interval



Temperature Line Scan



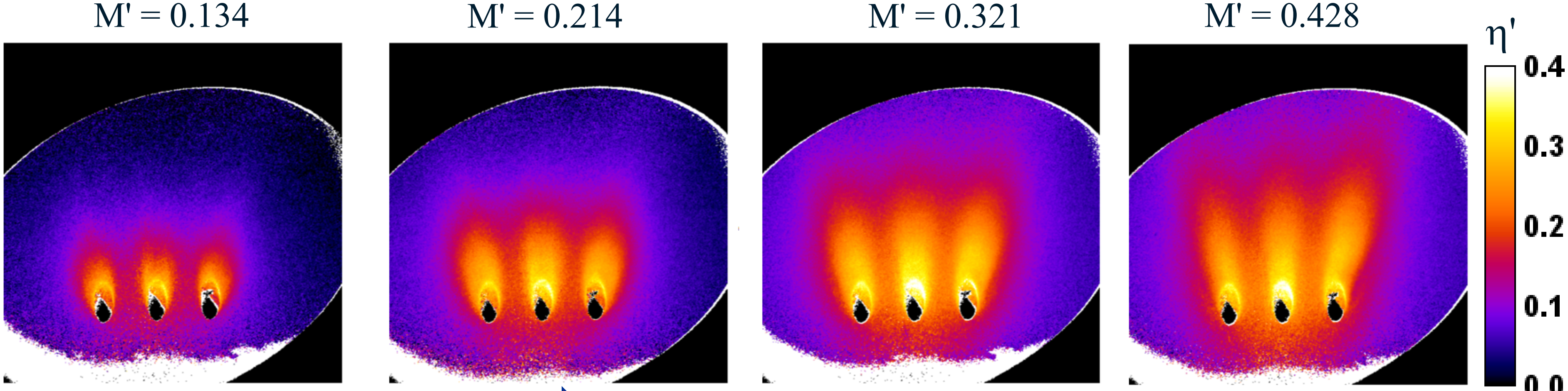
photos



Burner Rig 2D Cooling Effectiveness Maps

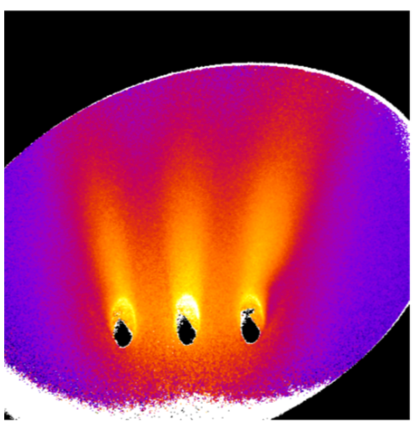
$T_{mainstream} = 1390°C$

M' = 0.134 M' = 0.214 M' = 0.321 M' = 0.428

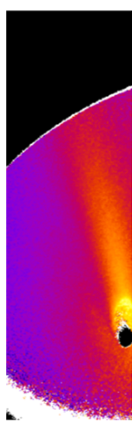


Initially increasing air jet film cooling effectiveness

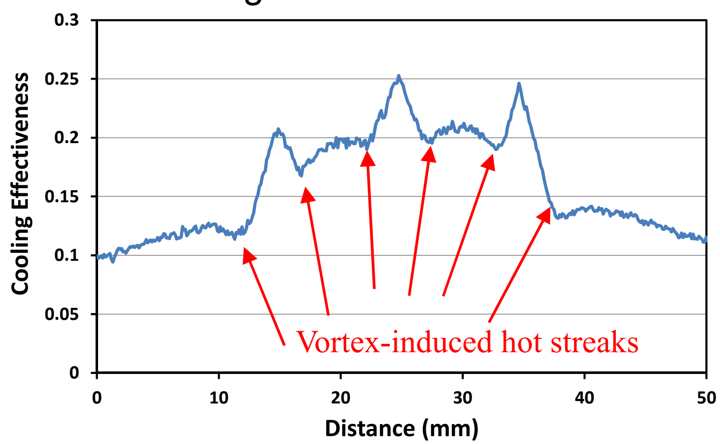
M' = 0.535



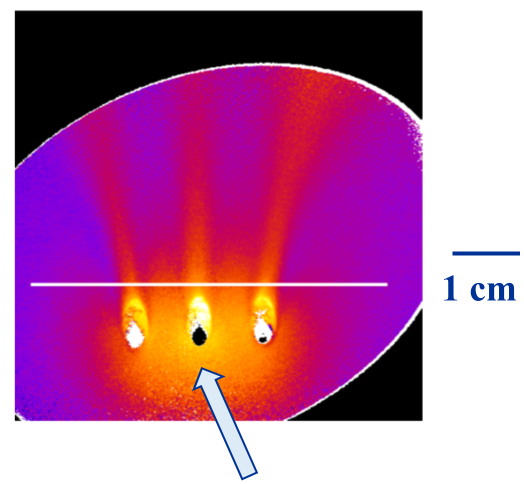
M



Cooling Effectiveness Line Scan



M' = 0.936

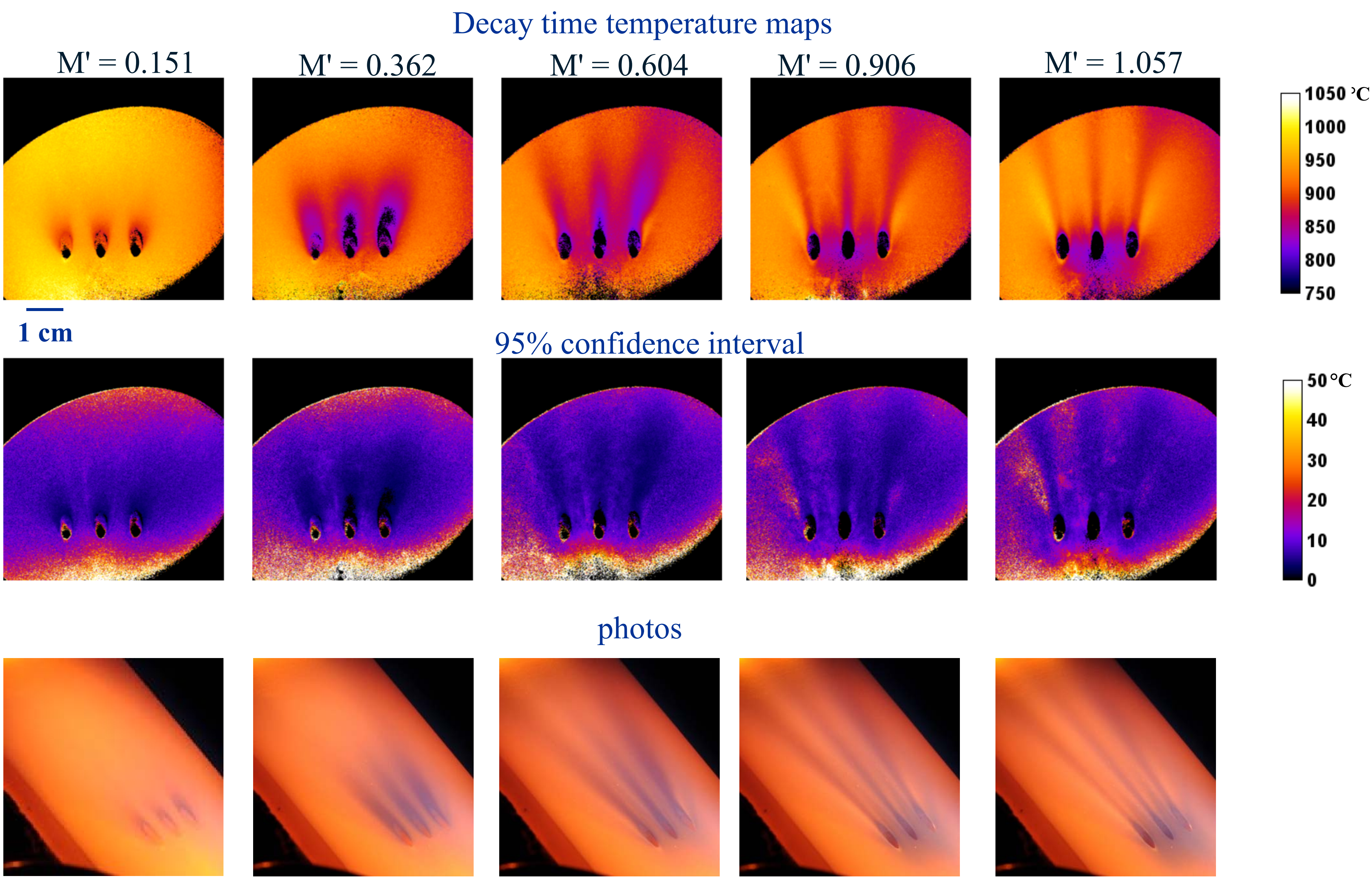


Rapidly increasing through-hole convection cooling effectiveness
Diminishing air film cooling effectiveness with air jet lift-off
Appearance of vortex-induced hot streaks

Upstream through-hole convective cooling

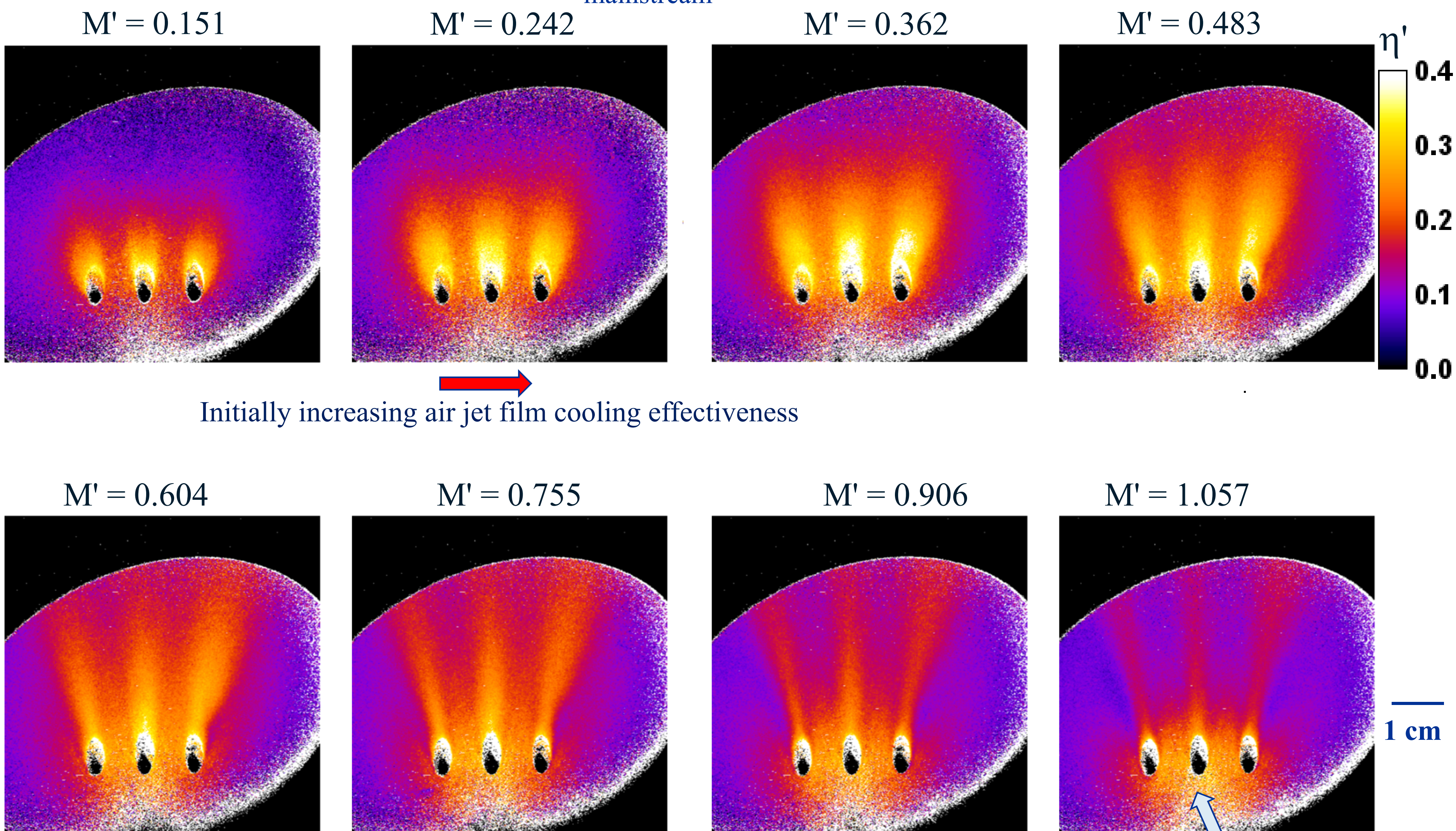
Burner Rig 2D Temperature Maps

$T_{mainstream} = 1604°C$



Burner Rig 2D Cooling Effectiveness Maps

$T_{mainstream} = 1604°C$

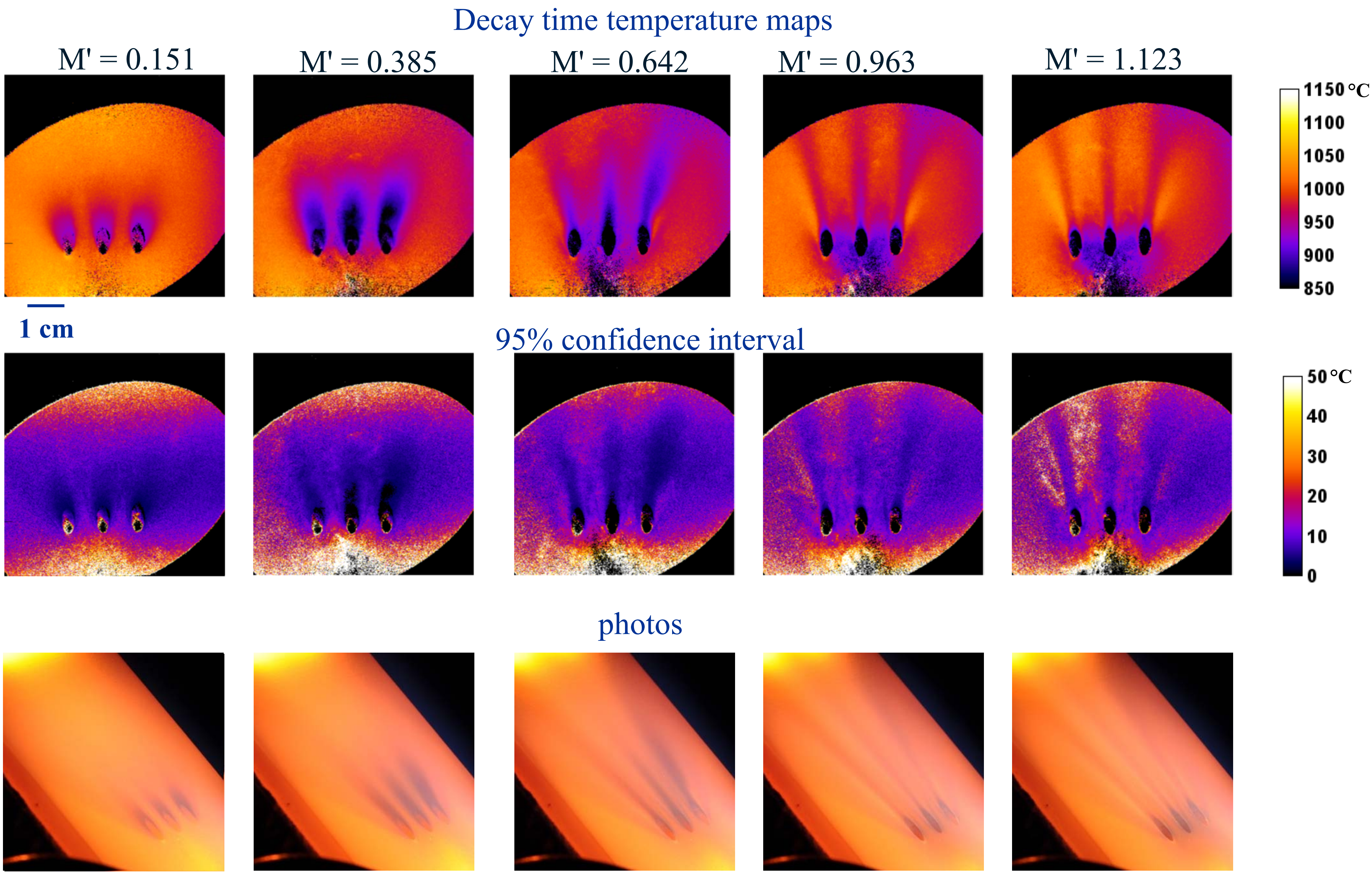


Rapidly increasing through-hole convection cooling effectiveness
Diminishing air film cooling effectiveness with air jet lift-off
Appearance of vortex-induced hot streaks

Upstream through-hole convective cooling

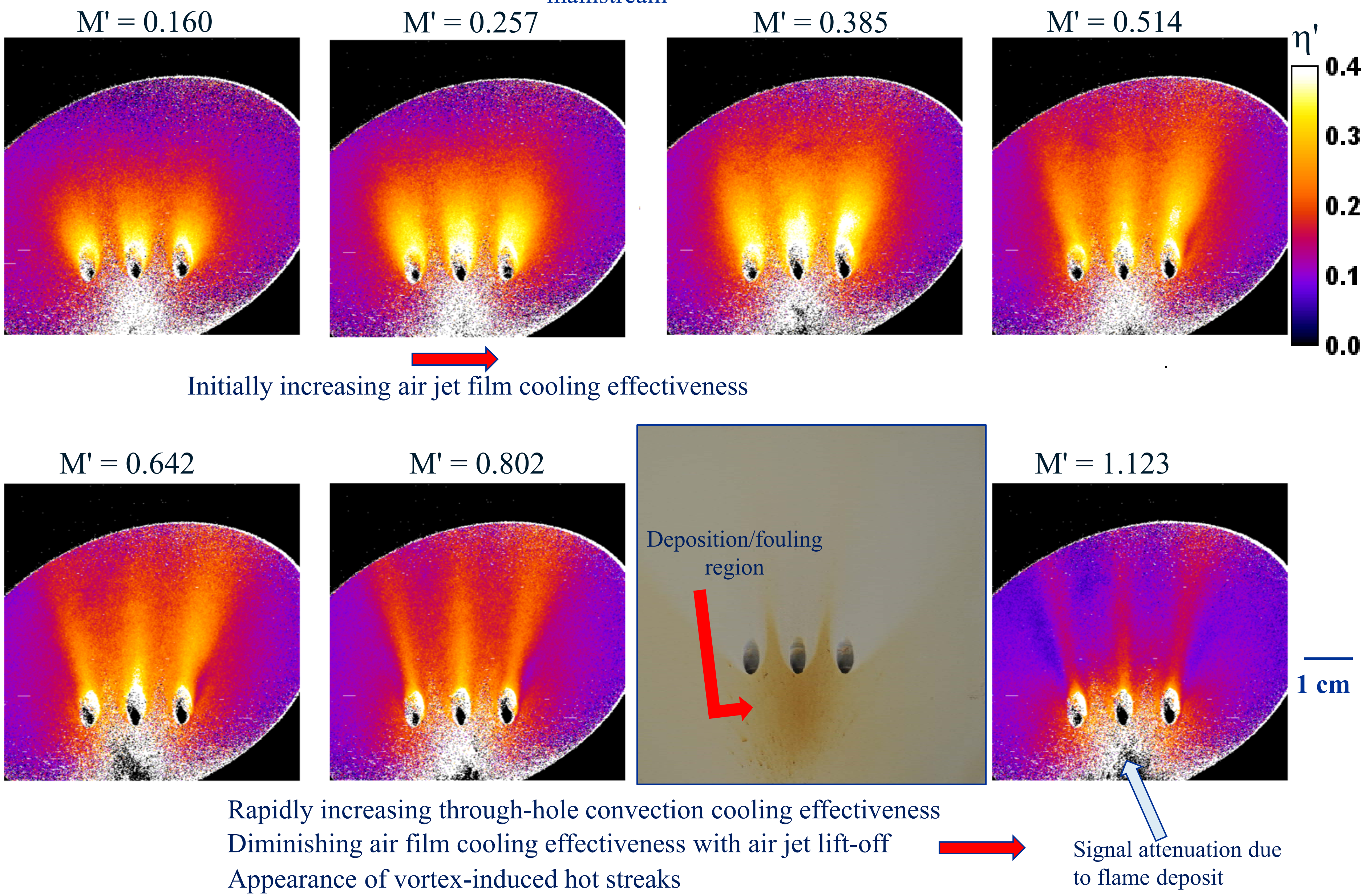
Burner Rig 2D Temperature Maps

$T_{mainstream} = 1722°C$

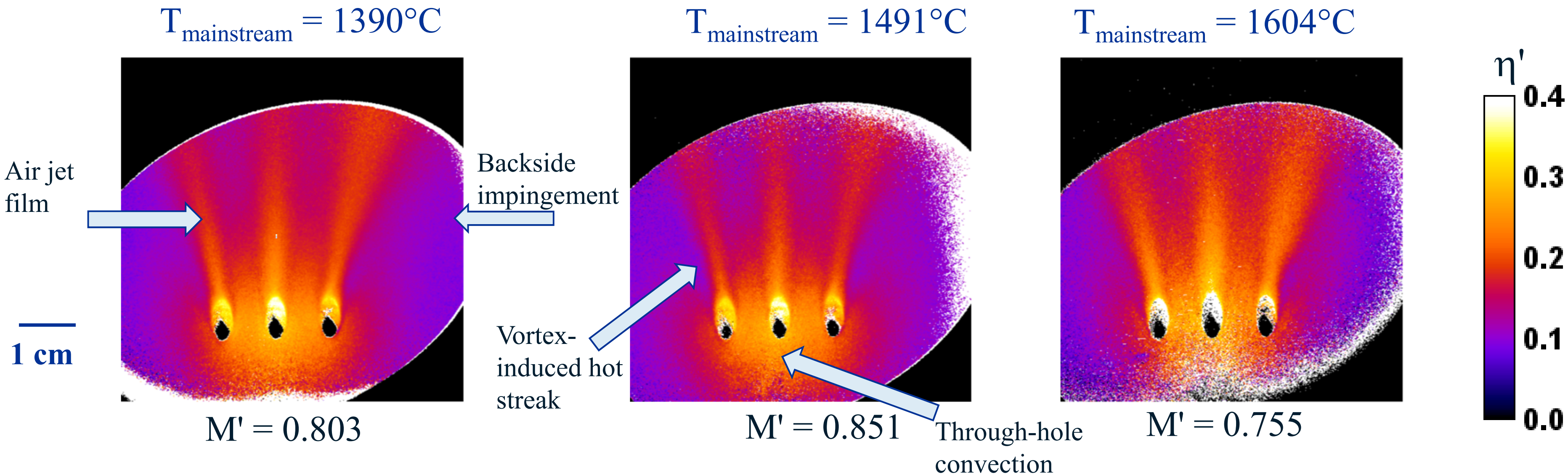


Burner Rig 2D Cooling Effectiveness Maps

$T_{mainstream} = 1722°C$



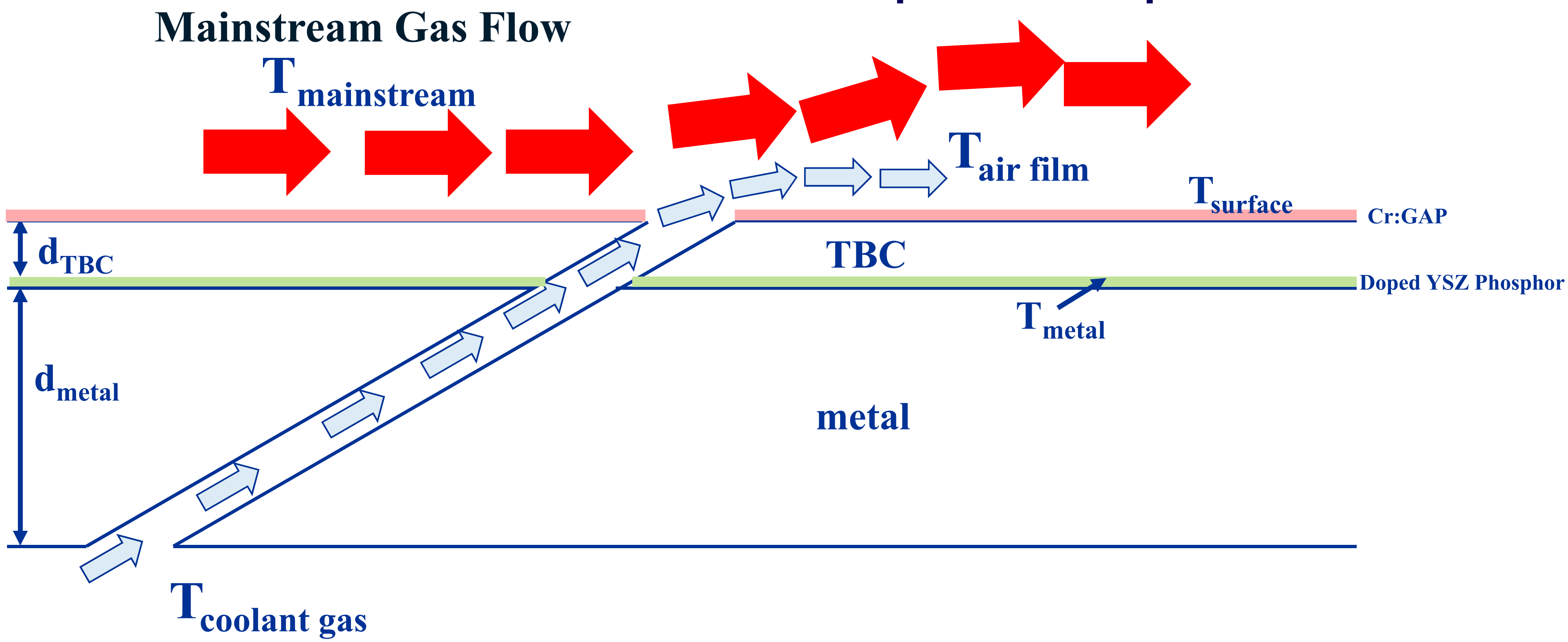
Combined Cooling Effects Summary



- Air film cooling
  - Effectiveness initially increases with increasing M, then diminishes with jet lift-off.
  - Vortex-induced hot streaks appear near cooling holes. May be worse on TBC-coated surface.
- Through-hole convective cooling
  - Effectiveness increases rapidly at high M.
  - Not observed in conventional air film cooling measurements.
- Backside impingement cooling
  - Slowly increases with increasing M.
- Cooling effectiveness shows similar dependence on blowing ratio over wide range of mainstream gas temperature.
- Effect of TBC on other cooling mechanisms
  - Will decrease air film cooling effectiveness.
  - Will increase through hole convective cooling effectiveness – may be useful for showerhead cooling.

Future Direction

Add Metal Surface Temperature Maps



Surface cooling effectiveness from Cr:GAP layer:

$$\eta' = \frac{T_{uncooled}^{surface} - T_{cooled}^{surface}}{T_{uncooled}^{surface} - T_{coolant\ enter}}$$

Metal cooling effectiveness from doped YSZ layer:

$$\Phi' = \frac{T_{uncooled}^{metal} - T_{cooled}^{metal}}{T_{uncooled}^{metal} - T_{coolant\ enter}}$$

Conclusions

- Successfully demonstrated 2D temperature mapping by Cr:GAP phosphor thermometry with high resolution (temperature, spatial, but not temporal) in presence of strong background radiation associated with combustor burner flame.
- Can be used as new tool for studying/optimizing non-additive interplay of cooling mechanisms for TBC-coated components.
  - TBC
  - Air film
  - Through-hole convection
  - Backside impingement

Acknowledgment

- Funding from NASA Transformative Tools & Technologies (TTT) Project under the Transformative Aeronautics Concepts Program (TACP)